

**Washington State Association of County Engineers  
WSAC Summer Convention  
Spokane Valley Double Tree Hotel  
Minutes of June 26, 2003 WSACE Business Meeting**

Call to order and roll call was made by President Tim Fife. The president's report included praise and acknowledgement of the previous day's joint session with the commissioners where Six County Public Works Project Success Stations were provided in an open house format. The six stations were:

- Station 1: CR View Walla Walla County
- Station 2: Project Funding Success, Kittitas County
- Station 3: CRAB & RAP: A solution in Benton County's Horse Haven Hills
- Station 4: Spokane Valley Incorporation
- Station 5: Cost Accounting Software, WSACE
- Station 6: Snohomish County Corridor Project

WSACE also supported a Technical Suite for after-convention exchanges of information.

New officers were recognized:

Jerry Hauth, Mason, President  
Phil Merrell, Walla Walla, President-Elect  
Dale Rancour, Thurston, Secretary/Treasurer  
Esco Bell, Pacific, Western District President  
Joe Rutan, Whatcom. Western District Secretary  
Derek Pohle, Grant, Western District President  
Jolene Gosslein, Douglas, Eastern District Secretary  
Kent Cash, Cowlitz, NACE Representative

Reid Wheeler reported on the salary survey. This year 29 counties responded which is up from 26 last year. CDs of the salary survey were distributed. It was emphasized that good and complete data is always needed as well as caution in comparing job descriptions.

Ross Dunfee reported on the Draft Eastern Washington Stormwater Manual. Comments are due in August. WSDOT Highway Runoff Manual will be out in draft form with its completion scheduled for December 2003. Injection well criteria are included in the draft Eastern Washington Stormwater Manual. Industrial Stormwater Permit (i.e., NPDES and State Waste Discharge Baseline General Permit for Stormwater Discharge Associated With Industrial Activities) is in litigation. The EPA Phase II and related State Waste Discharge General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated With Construction Activity regulations, which are supposed to require sites of one acre and larger to apply for permits, is way behind schedule and just starting to be drafted.

Jeff Monsen reported that an advisory committee meeting in August is starting NPDES permit form [what? "review" or "drafting"]. One of the big issues concerns the requirements of a city that recently comes under NPDES Phase II when the city is located in a county that has always been under NPDES phase I requirements.

Jerry Hauth noted that WSACE and engineers from the Washington Association of Cities are looking at quarterly meetings with Highways and Local Programs for more coordination. Jerry also noted that scholarships for the Professional Development Program has not been fully allocated and encourages more applications in the future.

Secretary Treasurer Phil Merrell presented the budget, which was voted on and approved.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

Kathleen Davis gave the Highways and Local Programs Report. Key discussions included:

- Promotion of coordination with the Association of County Engineers and the engineers with the Association of Cities.
- Coordination with the State Legislature has resulted to date in emphasis of statewide highways of significance. Handouts of *2003 Legislative Session Transportation Results and "Nickel Funding Package" Enacted for Transportation* by the 2003 Washington State Legislature.
- Al King has moved from Highways & Local Programs to CRAB.
- Reorganization of WSDOT Planning and Programs.
- New Federal Highway Fiscal Program Nicknamed "Safe-Tea" has not been finalized. Current State law fixes the percent of local agency allocations. If the new federal program results in new additional areas of emphasis with additional funding then more coordination work will be needed with local agencies. Not much work can be started until there is a new federal program. Data including accident history may be one of the key components needing analysis. It is expected that 2004 allocations of federal funds will be on the same basis as T-21 federal allocations.
- There will not be any Hazard Elimination Safety Grants (HES) this year.
- Environmental permit streamlining is being pursued.
- Super pave is being worked on so it is compatible with local needs. This will include a General Special Provision (GSP) to cover exemptions for local agencies and/or relationships to existing testing procedures.

Omar Mehryar gave the Transportation Improvement Board Report. 2005 Call for Projects is due August 29, 2003. Applications packages can be downloaded from the web, [website address?]

Walt Olsen gave the CRAB Report. Discussion included:

- Relief that the state legislature did not impact CRAB.
- Maintenance Management is moving into the implementation phase.
- Indian reservation roads may require pavement and safety management systems as part of the proposed Federal Highway Funding Package (SAFETEA). Counties and tribes are encouraged to work together.
- Chris Mudgett leaves CRAB for City of Olympia and Al King comes to CRAB from WSDOT.
- Urban area designation as part of the new census. Generally the direction is to not pursue for revisions to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

The afternoon session started with Scott Bird, L& I on Liability for Workers Compensation for Public Works. The bottom line is that the state holds the owner (county) responsible for payment of worker's compensation premiums owed by contractors and subcontractors. The county needs to have a procedure to assure that contractors and subcontractors have paid these taxes. The coordination we currently do with L&I on prevailing wage requirements will not catch this tax requirement. There may be a need to check, particularly out-of-state contractors. Counties can check with Scott Bird at (360) 902-4686.

Reese Hastings of the Geologist Licensing Board gave a presentation on the new license for Geologist. Handouts were provided. It will take some time to fully define and develop a working relationship with the new licensed profession. It seems that the new license requirement would not impact civil engineering designs for foundations. The Geologist Licensing Board can be reached at (360) 664-1497 or email at [geologists@dol.wa.gov](mailto:geologists@dol.wa.gov).

Phil Merrell led a discussion of cost accounting software. The investigation to date has shown that the Oregon system (IRIS) is not far enough along. Ross Dunfee, Benton County provided information on their negotiation with WIN-CAMS. They encourage others to participate in future inquiries and negotiations to hopefully form a basis for a better price, uniformity of approach and better statewide training opportunities.